



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Missing Parts, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 23, 2004

Date of Deposit

G. Peter Nichols

Name of applicant/assignee or  
Registered Representative

Signature

July 23, 2004

Date of Signature

**PATENT**  
**Case No. 12262/6**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: )  
 )  
Michio Ono et al. )  
 ) Group Art Unit: 1746  
Serial No.: 10/807,689 )  
 ) Examiner: unknown  
Filed: March 24, 2004 )  
 )  
For: SILICA SOL COMPOSITION, )  
MEMBRANE ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY )  
WITH PROTON-EXCHANGE )  
MEMBRANE, AND FUEL CELL )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Missing Parts  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-captioned case references and information that may be relevant to the examination of the above-captioned patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

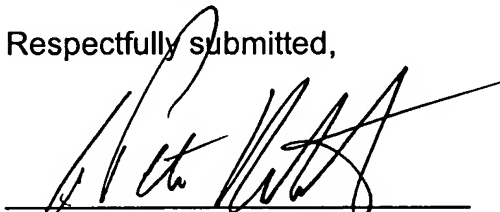
The relevance of JP 2000- 090946 and PCT WO 03/041091 is believed to be evident from the Abstract.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case. The Examiner is invited to review the full disclosure of the listed documents for an independent evaluation of the pertinence of the documents to the invention claimed in the above-captioned application.

A PTO Form-1449 is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 23, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Peter Nichols  
Registration No. 34,401  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
Telephone: (312) 321-4200  
Facsimile: (312) 321-4299



PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/807,689	CASE NO. 12262/6
<b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>	FILING DATE March 24, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 1746
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Ono et al.

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1					
	A2					
	A3					
	A4					
	A5					
	A6					
	A7					
	A8					
	A9					
	A10					
	A11					
	A12					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A13	JP 2000-090946	Publ Date: 31.03.00	Japan		No (English Excerpt Attached)
	A14	WO 03/041091 A1	15.05.03	PCT		No (Abstract attached)
	A15					
	A16					
	A17					

EXAMINER INITIAL	<b>OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b> <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.</small>	
	A18	<i>Inorganic-organic proton conductors based on alkylsulfone functionalities and their patterning by photoinduced methods</i> , Laurent Depre, Jürgen Kappel and Michal Popall, <i>Electrochimica Acta.</i> , Vol. 43, Nos. 10-11, pp. 1301-1306, 1998
	A19	
	A20	
	A21	
	A22	
	A23	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.